VAMPIRONICA®

NEW BLOOD

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PREVIOUSLY...

Veronica Lodge is popular, beautiful, rich, and fashionable. She's also a bloodsucking vampire. And it's not just Veronica, either. Riverdale's teen socialite descends from a long line of vampires... something she didn't learn until she came face-to-face with Ivan, an evil, centuries-old vampire who had her parents, Hiram and Hermione Lodge, under his command. While trying to escape from the vampire hellscape that was once her loving home, she was given refuge by fellow student and teen genius Dilton Doiley. Together, they were able to successfully thwart Ivan's tactics and stop him from turning the rest of Riverdale into his vampire army. However, Veronica realized that there was another master vampire pulling the strings back at Lodge Mansion. After facing horrible traps and illusions, Veronica heroically defeated the master vampire (or at least who she *believed* to be the master) and saved the town!

But Veronica's paranormal nightmare was just one possible scenario. In another world, another *Riverdale*, one of her friends was dealing with his own horror story. Jughead Jones was grappling with learning that he too descended from a long line of monsters—however, his lineage was werewolves. Fortunately, there's no way their two worlds could meet, and that's for the best, as vampires and werewolves have been enemies since Riverdale was first colonized. *Unfortunately* for them, however, a young woman named Jinx Holliday, who just so happens to be the daughter of Satan, cast a spell using one of her father's occult books, which brought two universes together.

Before another all-out vampire vs. werewolf war started, the residents of Riverdale were confronted with an uncomfortable truth: if there were two different versions of Riverdale, who's to say there aren't even more than that? And Jinx proved that to be true when all of the realities came crashing together, meaning they all could individually be affected by this collision. No one knew what to do or how to prevent it and set things right.

Enter: Sabrina Spellman. The teen witch tasked Jugwolf and Vampironica to find the Book of Lucifer, the only thing that could restore order. Unfortunately, it was long buried with the first (and most powerful) vampire ever in Riverdale... and that resting place? Right under Riverdale High School! They were able to successfully retrieve the book and set things right, but not before Veronica learned a harsh truth: that evil, historic vampire was Sir Francis Lodge, her ancestor.

Now Veronica is back in her own vampire reality with the knowledge that her ancestry is filled with evil. It's up to her to manage her family's past while still confronting the struggles of being a teen bloodsucker.

CHAPTER ONE

COVER ART BY AUDREY MOK

STORY BY FRANK TIERI & MICHAEL MORECI ART BY AUDREY MOK
COLORING BY MATT HERMS LETTERING BY JACK MORELLI

Uhhh... WHERE AM I...

WITH... JUG WOLF?

NO...

NOT JUGGIE...

SOMEPLACE A LOT LESS SCARY...

SOME-PLACE A LOT MORE...

WET.

UGH. SO CAN SOMEONE PLEASE DO TWO THINGS FOR ME, THANKS?

PLEASE GET HOT DOG TO STOP LICKING ALL MY MAKEUP OFF...

AND EXTRA PLEASE, TELL ME WHERE THE HELL I AM?

WELL, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN AS FAR AS HOT DOG, BUT I CAN HELP WITH THE SECOND PART, RONNIE...

Pop's

YOU'RE IN *RIVERDALE.*

YEAH...BUT *MY* RIVERDALE? OR...

I THINK THE BIGGER QUESTION THAT NEEDS TO BE ASKED IS THIS...

pop's

WHERE HAVE *YOU* BEEN?

YOU, POP TATE, BUNCH OF PEOPLE...

ALL JUST DISAPPEARED INTO THIN AIR ONE DAY. AND HAVEN'T BEEN SEEN SINCE.

THAT'S BECAUSE I ***DIDN'T*** DISAPPEAR. I, Uh...I HAD A HUGE FIGHT WITH MY PARENTS! YEAH, THAT'S IT. WENT TO NYC ON A SHOPPING SPREE TO MAKE 'EM PAY. AND BOY, DID I!

FUNNY... THEY DIDN'T MENTION ANY OF THIS TO ME.

Eh, YOU KNOW THEM. THEY WERE ***EMBARRASSED***. THEY'RE NOT GOING TO TELL THE TRUTH TO SOMEBODY LIKE YOU. ESPECIALLY DADDY.

I GUESS... BUT WHY WERE YOU LAYING ON THE GROUND JUST NOW? HONESTLY, IT'S ALL VERY WEIRD, RONNIE.

WELL... OTHER THAN ***YOU*** RIGHT NOW.

WHAT AM I, GETTING ***INTERROGATED*** HERE? IT WAS...Um, THE NYC POLLUTION, IF YOU MUST KNOW. IT GOT TO ME AND I NEEDED TO LAY DOWN. I MEAN, HAVE YOU ***BEEN*** TO THAT CITY LATELY?

WEIRD? ARCHIEKINS... YOU HAVE NO IDEA. AFTER ALL, IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN TELL YOU WHAT REALLY HAPPENED...

THAT MYSELF AND ALL THE OTHER PEOPLE THAT WENT MISSING ARE ***VAMPIRES*** THAT GOT TRANSPORTED TO ANOTHER REALITY BY A ***SATANIC BOOK***.

THAT THIS WAS A REALITY WHERE ***WEREWOLVES*** WON A WAR AGAINST VAMPIRES, WHERE I MET A ***WEREWOLF JUGHEAD***... WHO I ENDED UP ***KISSING*** BEFORE REMATERIALIZING HERE, INCIDENTALLY.

A REALITY WHERE I LEARNED I'VE BEEN LIED TO MY WHOLE LIFE. WHERE I LEARNED I'M DESCENDED FROM ***SIR FRANCIS LODGE***...

WHO APPARENTLY WAS ESSENTIALLY ***COUNT HITLER.***

YEAH...***NO***. I THINK I'LL KEEP ALL THAT TO MYSELF RIGHT NOW, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I--

RONNIE? ***HELLO?***

Huh? I'M SORRY, ARCHIEKINS, I WAS...

SOMEPLACE ***ELSE***. LOOK, I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOU...

BUT I'M JUST GLAD YOU'RE BACK. AND I IMAGINE YOUR PARENTS WILL BE, TOO.

WHATEVER YOUR ISSUES ARE, I KNOW THEY WERE WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU. MAYBE YOU SHOULD GO CHECK IN WITH THEM?

GO SEE MY PARENTS? YEAH, MAYBE IT ***IS*** TIME I SAW THEM, ALRIGHT...

Hm...I DIDN'T EVEN GET TO ASK HER ABOUT THE ***SWORD*** ON HER BACK.

AND TIME I FINALLY GOT SOME ANSWERS.

SO, YOU'VE GOT NOTHING. THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE TELLING ME, DEPUTY BARNES? THIS *KID*, HE WAS JUST SUDDENLY *HERE*. IN OUR STATION, LIKE A RABBIT PULLED OUT OF A HAT. AND HE'S NOT SAYING A *WORD*.
WELL, Uh, NO, SHERIFF. HE IS SAYING *ONE* WORD...
RIVER DALE POLICE DEPT.
...KELLER.
THAT SO?
YOU COME HERE LOOKING FOR ME, IS THAT IT? WELL, YOU'VE GOT ME.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
Oh, SHERIFF.
SHERIFF, SHERIFF, SHERIFF.
TELL ME WE'RE NOT *REALLY* GOING TO PLAY THIS GAME.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO PRETEND THAT YOU DON'T RECOGNIZE YOUR OWN *KIND*, ARE YOU?

Um, SHERIFF, IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA TO GET AN I.D. ON THIS KID AND HOLD HIM UNTIL WE KNOW WHAT WE'RE DEALIN--

THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT.

NO NEED AT ALL. SHERIFF KELLER KNOWS *EXACTLY* WHO I AM.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

I--I DON'T LIKE *THIS*, SHERIFF.

EASY, SON. I DON'T KNOW WHO THIS YOUNG MAN IS, BUT I'M GIVING HIM *ONE CHANCE* TO WALK OUT OF MY POLICE STATION AND *NEVER* COME BACK.

SO YOU *ARE* GOING TO PLAY THIS GAME?

AFTER ALL THE TORMENT YOU KELLERS HAVE PUT PEOPLE LIKE ME THROUGH--

--THE LEAST YOU CAN DO IS *OWN UP* TO IT.

LIKE I SAID-- I DON'T KNOW *YOU*.

YEAH... *YEAH*.

I FIGURED YOU MIGHT NEED SOME CONVINCING.

AAAH!!

YOU'D MAKE SUCH *TASTY* MEAT.

MAYBE ANOTHER TIME.

GET OFF OF HIM!

NOW!

YOU KNOW THAT WEAPON MEANS ***NOTHING*** TO ME.

I DON'T KNOW WHO OR ***WHAT*** THE ***HELL*** YOU ARE, BUT YOU BETTER PUT THOSE HANDS OF YOURS IN THE AIR, AND YOU BETTER DO IT RIGHT THIS ***SECOND***.

KEEP UP THE CHARADE ALL YOU WANT, KELLER. IT'S NOT GOING TO HELP YOU--OR ***SAVE*** YOU.

WAR'S COMING. AND MARK MY WORDS-- YOU ***WILL*** REAP WHAT YOU'VE SOWN.

CONSIDER YOURSELF ***WARNED***.

HEY! ***HEY!***

STOP RIGHT THERE! STOP--

KKSSSSHHH

SON OF A ***BITCH***.

STOCK MARKET TOOK *ANOTHER* DIP.

THESE SPRING DRESSES ARE JUST TO *DIE* FOR.

YES, YES, WE WILL BE IN TROUBLE BY SPRING IF SOMETHING DOESN'T CHANGE, AND SOO--

SLAM

WHO. ARE. WE?

VERONICA, DEAR-- YOU'RE BACK!

THANK GOD. NOW I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU'VE BEEN OR WHAT IN THE WORLD'S GOTTEN INTO YOU, YOUNG LADY, BUT--

ENOUGH, DADDY.

ENOUGH.

YOU HAVE *NO IDEA* WHAT I'VE BEEN THROUGH, WHERE I'VE BEEN, AND I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO *BEGIN* EXPLAINING IT. BUT AFTER EVERYTHING, I WILL *NOT* BE LEFT IN THE DARK. NOT ANYMORE.

I *KNOW*.

I KNOW THE STUNT YOU PULLED WITH THAT SO-CALLED DRACULA WAS JUST THAT-- *A STUNT*.

AND I KNOW ABOUT *SIR FRANCIS LODGE*.

I'M GOING TO ASK YOU BOTH ONE *LAST* TIME, AND IF YOU CAN'T GIVE ME A STRAIGHT ANSWER, I'M GOING TO WALK OUT OUR FRONT DOOR AND *NEVER* TURN BACK.

WHO *ARE* WE?

WE WERE TRYING TO PROTECT YOU. YOU ***MUST*** UNDERSTAND THAT. EVERYTHING WE DID...THEY WERE DECISIONS MADE BY PARENTS ***DESPERATE*** TO KEEP THEIR DAUGHTER ***SAFE***.

YOUR MOTHER'S RIGHT.

THAT INCIDENT WITH THE FAKE DRACULA WAS MEANT TO CONVINCE YOU THAT YOU ***WEREN'T*** A VAMPIRE. SEE, YOU'RE AT THE AGE WHERE YOUR VAMPIRISM BEGINS TO...BECOME ***UNDENIABLE***, AND WE THOUGHT-- IF WE JUST GOT ***AHEAD*** OF IT...

SO IT IS TRUE. WE'RE VAMPIRES-- ***DESCENDANTS*** OF VAMPIRES.

WELL, YOUR MOTHER WAS ***TURNED*** INTO ONE-- WILLINGLY, OF COURSE.

BUT YOU AND I, WE COME FROM A ***LONG LINE*** OF VAMPIRES, ALL TRACING BACK TO ONE MAN:

AND YES, THAT MAN IS SIR FRANCIS LODGE.

HE'S THE FIRST LODGE TO COME TO AMERICA, THAT MUCH I KNOW. BUT MORE SIGNIFICANTLY THAN THAT...

THE FIRST ***VAMPIRE*** TO COME TO AMERICA.

I WANT TO KNOW ***MORE***, DADDY. EVERYTHING THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT THIS MAN.

VERONICA... YOU KNOW ***ENOUGH***.

FAR MORE THAN I WOULD'VE LIKED, TO BE HONEST. THIS WAS THE EXACT KIND OF ***DANGEROUS SECRET*** WE WERE TRYING TO KEEP YOU--

♪ DING ♪ DONG

DING DONG

COMING, COMING!

Oh, TOM! WHY, IT'S SO *LATE*. WHAT BRINGS YOU ALL THE WAY OUT HERE?

PARDON THE LATE HOUR, HERMIONE, BUT I NEED TO SEE HIRAM.

IT'S URGENT.

TOM--WHAT IS IT? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE SEEN THE *DEVIL* HIMSELF.

YEAH? AND WHO SAYS I HAVEN'T?

LISTEN, WE NEED TO TALK. IN *PRIVATE*. I HAD A...

...I HAD AN *ENCOUNTER* TONIGHT.

Uh, *EXCUSE* ME? WHAT ABOUT WHAT *WE* WERE TALKING ABOUT? THIS IS *IMPORTANT*, DADDY. I NEED ANSWERS.

I'M SORRY, VERONICA. I--I HAVE...BUSINESS WITH SHERIFF KELLER. *URGENT* BUSINESS.

WE'LL TALK LATER. I PROMISE.

"SO, VERONICA, I WAS THINKING, SINCE THINGS ARE BACK TO *SOMEWHAT* NORMAL*..."

RIVERDALE HIGH

*SEE THE VAMPIRONICA VOL. 1 GRAPHIC NOVEL AND THE JUGHEAD THE HUNGER VS. VAMPIRONICA CROSSOVER MINI-SERIES!

...HALLOWEEN. THE DANCE.

YOU. ME.

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

I SAY...ARE YOU *SURE* YOU'VE BEEN *THINKING?* BECAUSE YOU JUST KINDA RATTLED OFF A BUNCH OF WORDS AT ME.

Oh, I--WELL. I WAS JUST THINKING THAT, LIKE, IF YOU'RE GOING, AND I'M GOING, MAYBE WE CAN GO, YOU KNOW... *TOGETHER?*

SORRY-- *SORRY.* THAT WAS MEAN.

IT'S JUST THAT, AFTER EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED, I JUST...

...I'VE GOT SOME THINGS TO... *FIGURE OUT.*

LIKE HOW I HAD FEELINGS FOR THAT REALITY'S JUGHEAD. DOES THAT APPLY TO THIS ONE AS WELL?

MAYBE YOU CAN GIVE ME A LITTLE TIME?

YEAH, YEAH. *TOTALLY.* WE'LL JUST TALK ABOUT IT...LATER. WHEN YOU'RE READY.

THANKS, ARCHIEKINS.

VERONICA!

VERONICA!

DILTON, ***BUDDY***, PLEASE TELL ME YOU HAVE A ***REALLY*** GOOD REASON FOR SCREAMING MY NAME DOWN THE HALLWAY. LIKE SOMETHING INVOLVING SIR FRANCIS LODGE, SEEING AS YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE I TALKED TO ABOUT THAT.

OF COURSE I HAVE A GOOD REASON. WHY ELSE WOULD I BE DOING IT? AND ***YES***, IT INVOLVES YOUR RELATIVE FROM HELL.

OKAY, SO, GET THIS: I SPEND THE ENTIRE MORNING AT THE RIVERDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AND--

DILTON DOILEY, ***SKIPPING SCHOOL?*** WHAT HAVE I DONE TO YOU?

WELL, BECAUSE OF THE ACADEMIC NATURE OF MY TRIP, PRINCIPAL WEATHERBEE APPROVED OF--

DILTON.

Um, RIGHT.

LOOK, I'VE DISCOVERED SOME... ***THINGS*** ABOUT SIR FRANCIS. BUT, VERONICA, ARE YOU ***SURE*** YOU WANT TO KNOW? THIS--IT'S NOT GOING TO BE EASY FOR YOU.

I KNOW, BUT...I JUST CAN'T LOOK AWAY. NOT NOW. I NEED TO KNOW WHO I AM, WHERE I ***COME*** FROM. AND IF FRANCIS LODGE IS THE KEY--

KEY TO WHAT?

KEVIN! YOU SCARED THE CRAP OUT OF ME!

SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN TO. BUT...

...CAN WE TALK? JUST YOU AND ME?

IT'S... ***IMPORTANT.***

Oh, Um, WELL--

BRRRRRING

SORRY, KEV. GOTTA GET TO CLASS. MAYBE LATER?

ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE. SETTLE DOWN.

JUST SETTLE DOWN.

NOW, BEFORE WE GET STARTED WITH TODAY'S CLASS-- AND I'M ***CERTAIN*** YOU'RE ALL FULLY PREPARED, Hmmm?-- I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO A NEW STUDENT HERE AT RIVERDALE HIGH.

EVERYONE GIVE A WARM WELCOME...

...TO ***EDWARD FOGARTY.***

HEY.

YOU KNOW ME? KNOW WHO I AM?

I USED TO ***BE*** RIVERDALE, SAME AS YOU. THEY NEVER TALK ABOUT ME?

MAYBE ONE DAY THEY'LL TALK ABOUT THE KID WHO GOT DETENTION IN HIS FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF SCHOOL.

COME ON. THINK ***REAL*** HARD.

THEY USED TO CALL ME ***FANGS.***

"ARE YOU SURE THIS IS A SHORTCUT TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, DILTON?"

AND SINCE WHEN DO YOU CUT CORNERS? ***EVER?***

SINCE TIME BECAME A FACTOR! IF THERE'S ONE THING I'VE LEARNED RECENTLY, IT'S THAT LITERALLY ***ANYTHING*** CAN HAPPEN.

YEAH, ESPECIALLY IN CREEPY FORESTS AT DUSK...

VERONICA, YOU NEED TO UNDERSTAND: THIS FRANCIS LODGE, HE'S ***DEEP*** IN RIVERDALE HISTORY. I MEAN, BY ***SOME*** ACCOUNTS, HE MAY HAVE EVEN--

DO YOU HEAR THAT?

HEAR... WHAT?

THAT--THAT ***RUSTLING*** SOUND.

WE'RE NOT ALONE HERE.

NO, NO YOU ARE *NOT*.

THOUGH I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GET THE JUMP ON YOU.

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE *TRIED*, THEN.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

WELL, YOU GET RIGHT TO IT. I *LIKE* THAT.

ALL I WANT IS TO TALK. FOR NOW.

SEE, VERONICA, YOU'RE *SPECIAL*. SPECIAL IN WAYS I DON'T THINK YOU EVEN REALIZE. NOT YET.

AND THE THING THAT MAKES YOU SPECIAL, WELL...I *NEED* IT.

WE NEED IT.

HEY, BABE. WELCOME BACK.

AND WHAT WE NEED, WE *TAKE*.

NO--*NO*. LUCY, THAT'S NOT WHAT WE CAME HERE TO--

IS THAT RIGHT?

YOU WANT TO TAKE SOMETHING FROM ME, GOTH GIRL?

THEN COME *GET IT*.

I CAN'T *BELIEVE--*

THAT YOU *ACTUALLY* GO BY *FANGS.*

I MEAN, *REALLY?*

SWOOSH

KRAKK

VERONICA!

HELP! *HELP!*

YEAH, *VERONICA. HELP.* HELP YOUR PATHETIC *HUMAN* FRIEND.

HELP ME, HELP ME!

HOW I LOVE THE SWEET SMELL OF HUMAN *FEAR.*

HURT HIM, AND I WILL TEAR *ALL* OF YOU APAR--

LISTEN, THIS IS ***NOT*** THE WAY I WANTED THIS TO GO DOWN, BUT WE NEED TO TALK. STAND DOWN, AND WE LET THE NERD LIVE.

OTHER-WISE, WE--

HYUK!

AAAHH!!

KRAKK

SNAP

KRAK

IT'S HIM-- IT'S ***HIM!***

LET'S GO LET'S GO LET'S GO!

NO. ***WAY.***

WHAT THE--

HOW?

HOW DOES THIS KEEP GETTING CRAZIER?

IT'S LIKE I TOLD YOU EARLIER, VERONICA...

...WE *NEED* TO TALK.

TO BE
CONTINUED

CHAPTER TWO

COVER ART BY AUDREY MOK

STORY BY FRANK TIERI & MICHAEL MORECI ART BY AUDREY MOK
COLORING BY LEE LOUGHRIDGE LETTERING BY JACK MORELLI

"I FOUND OUT ABOUT MY...

"...MY VAMPIRISM...

"...WHEN I WAS REALLY YOUNG. UNLIKE YOU, VERONICA..."

...MY PARENTS DIDN'T KEEP IT HIDDEN FROM ME. I JUST KEPT IT HIDDEN FROM EVERY-ONE ***ELSE***.

LIKE SO MANY ***OTHER*** THINGS.

MAYBE MY PARENTS HAD GOOD ***REASON*** FOR KEEPING IT FROM ME.

ALTHOUGH, I DON'T KNOW...

...I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER IF THAT'S REALLY THE CASE.

OKAY, BUT, KEVIN-- WHY ARE YOU TELLING US THIS ***NOW?***

BECAUSE... BECAUSE...

BECAUSE WHAT HAPPENED TO FANGS IS ***MY FAULT.***

"FANGS--*EDWARD*--LIVED ON MY BLOCK WHEN WE WERE KIDS.

"HE WAS...HOW DO I PUT THIS DELICATELY?"

LUNCH MONEY, KELLER. *NOW.*

"HOW ABOUT THIS: HE WAS A RAGE-FUELED, TOXIC, KNUCKLE-DRAGGING CRETIN WHO MADE MY LIFE *HELL.*"

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU FOR SOME DODGEBALL IN GYM TODAY, KELLER--HOPE YOU'RE READY!

"I KNEW EVEN *THEN* THAT I WAS DIFFERENT.

"I WAS ANGRY AND ...CONFUSED. ABOUT *SO MANY* THINGS."

LOOKEE HERE, KELL--

LEAVE ME *ALONE*, EDWARD.

LEAVE YOU ALONE? OR *WHAT?* Huh?

"AND ONE DAY..."

WHAT ARE *YOU* GOING TO DO TO *ME?*

"I JUST...

"I'D HAD *ENOUGH.*"

"I JUST SNAPPED."

STOP!

FANGS WAS A MONSTER. BUT NOW, THANKS TO ME, HE'S EVEN ***MORE*** OF ONE.

AND I CAN TRY TO JUSTIFY IT ALL I WANT-- SURE, HE TORMENTED ME. HE HURT ME IN ***SO MANY*** WAYS. BUT WHAT I DID TO HIM, DAMNING HIM FOR LIFE?

I CAN NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF FOR THAT.

KEVIN, YOU--YOU WERE A ***KID***. YOU WERE SCARED AND DEALING WITH ***SO MUCH***. YOU CAN'T-- YOU CAN'T PUNISH YOURSELF FOREVER.

IT DOESN'T MUCH MATTER, DOES IT? THE DAMAGE IS DONE. BESIDES, THAT'S NOT WHY WE'RE HERE.

FOR SOME REASON, FANGS IS ***BACK***. AND WHATEVER HE WANTS, IT CLEARLY HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH ***YOU***, VERONICA.

YEAH, I HAVE NO ***CLUE*** WHAT THAT'S ABOUT. I CAN BARELY FIGURE OUT MY OWN BAGGAGE, LET ALONE SOMEONE ***ELSE'S***.

BUT I'M GUESSING I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT MR. MYSTERIOSO IS AFTER, WHETHER I LIKE IT OR NO--

SPEAKING OF ***MYSTERIOSO***...

...WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING TUCKED INTO THIS DARK CORNER?

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE HOSTING A SÉANCE OR SOMETHING.

KEV, SCOOCH OVER. JUGHEAD, HOW ABOUT YOU GET SOME MUSIC GOING ON THE JUKEBOX AND--

ACTUALLY, I WAS JUST ABOUT TO ***LEAVE***.

LEAVE? BUT... WE JUST GOT HERE. AND...

...AND WE HAVEN'T TALKED ABOUT ***THE DANCE*** YET.

YEAH, *Um*... MY DAD. HE NEEDS ME FOR...MY ***HELP***. HE NEEDS MY HELP WITH SOME-THING.

YA KNOW... ***RICH PEOPLE STUFF***.

SORRY...

"...I GOTTA RUN."

VEROOOOONNICAAAA...

WHO?

HE'S NOT TELLING YOU EVERRRRYTHINNNNG...

I OWE YOU AN APOLOGY. WHAT HAPPENED EARLIER-- THAT'S ***NOT*** THE WAY IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE. MY ASSOCIATES HAVE LESS RESTRAINT THAN ME.

WELL, THEN ***ALL IS FORGIVEN.*** YOU TRYING TO KILL ME AND MY FRIEND IS JUST WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE.

OF COURSE YOU'LL PROBABLY JUST SET THE BRIDGE ON ***FIRE***, SO...

BUT NOW PLEASE HEAR ME OUT...

YOU KNOW, I LEFT MY FAMILY WHEN I WAS A KID BECAUSE IT WAS THE ONLY WAY FOR ME NOT TO ***DEVOUR THEM.*** SO, YOU CAN SAY I'VE BEEN ***AROUND.*** AND YOU WANT TO KNOW ONE THING I'VE LEARNED?

NOT REALLY.

PEOPLE WHO ***RESPECT*** YOU...

...THEY TELL YOU THE ***TRUTH.*** THE ***WHOLE*** TRUTH.

I GET THE FEELING NOT MANY PEOPLE RESPECT YOU, RONNIE. BUT--

YOU DON'T ***KNOW ME.***

BUT. THEY ***SHOULD.***

AND I'M GUESSING YOU WOULD, RIGHT?

YOU'LL SEE.

DING

YOU'LL SEE...

KLIK. KLIK. KLIK

MISSING

LAST SEEN

HAVE YOU SEEN MOOSE? *ANYWHERE?*

SOMEONE HAS TO HAVE SEEN HIM-- YOU CAN'T MISS THE BIG LUG!

JUST, *PLEASE*, MOOSE IS OUT THERE, AND... AND--

HERE MIDGE, WHY DON'T YOU HAND THOSE OVER TO ME? I'LL PASS THEM OUT FOR YOU--*ALL* OF THEM.

IT'S JUST... IT'S *MOOSE*. I KNOW HE'S NOT THE *SHARPEST* KNIFE IN THE DRAWER, BUT STILL...THIS ISN'T SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN. HOW? *HOW?*

I KNOW. BUT, YOU SHOULD GO HOME. REST. I'LL TALK TO WEATHERBEE. JUST TRY TO CONVINCE YOURSELF THAT...

...THAT EVERY-THING WILL BE *OKAY.*

MISSING

LISTEN TO ME: I DON'T KNOW WHAT GAME YOU'RE PLAYING, BUT THESE ARE REAL PEOPLE YOU'RE DEALING WITH. THEY'RE *MY FRIENDS*.

SLAM

NO GAMES. NOT FROM ME.

IF ANYONE GETS HURT BECAUSE OF *YOU*, KNOW THAT YOU'LL BE DEALING WITH *ME*.

YOU WANT ANSWERS. WELL, LET ME GIVE YOU A PIECE OF ADVICE:

STOP *ASKING* FOR WHAT YOU WANT, AND START *TAKING* IT.

AND LET ME GIVE *YOU* A PIECE OF ADVICE-- EIGHTIES FASHION IS OVER!

EVEN IRONICALLY!

LOOK, YOUR DAD-- YOUR ***VAMPIRE*** DAD-- PROBABLY WON'T KILL ***YOU*** FOR POKING AROUND HIS ***VERY*** PRIVATE STUDY. BUT ME? HE STILL CALLS ME "***MILTON***" HALF THE TIME, AND "***GET THE HELL OUT, YOU!***" THE OTHER HALF, SO...

...I'M NOT ***SURE*** HE HOLDS US IN THE SAME REGARD?

Oh, DILTON. YOU'RE ***IN THIS*** WITH ME. THAT MEANS BLOOD AND GUTS AND, YES, SOMETIMES BREAKING SOME ***MINOR*** RULES.

BUT IT WOULD BE ***BETTER*** IF BREAKING RULES...

GRRRR.

IF IT ACTUALLY ***GOT*** US SOMEWHERE. BUT THERE'S NOTHING HERE!

WE'VE TURNED THIS PLACE UPSIDE-DOWN, AND WHAT DO WE HAVE? NOT A SINGLE THING ABOUT SIR FRANCIS OR EVEN MY FAMILY'S HISTORY.

WE'VE FOUND ***NOTHING.***

AND YOU ***NEVER*** WILL.

YOUR FATHER MIGHT BE AN OLD, STUFFY BUFFOON SOMETIMES, BUT HE'S NOT ***STUPID***.

Uh... Uh... MRS. LODGE, SEE, WE WERE DOING A SCHOOL PROJECT AND... I'M ***DEAD***, AREN'T I?

ARE YOU GOING TO TELL DADDY? SHOULD I START PACKING MY THINGS NOW? NEW YORK IS NICE THIS TIME OF YEAR.

HUSH. BOTH OF YOU.

NOT ***ONE WORD*** TO YOUR FATHER.

CRREEAAKK

NO--

--WAY.

YOU DESERVE TO KNOW WHO YOU ***ARE***, DEAR. I DON'T CARE ***WHAT*** YOUR FATHER SAYS.

WOW. WELL... THANKS, MOM.

GO. BOTH OF YOU.

JUST BE BACK BEFORE YOUR FATHER GETS HOME!

OTHERWISE, ***YES***... ONE OF YOU WILL ACTUALLY HAVE TO MOVE TO NEW YORK AND THE OTHER WILL BE DEAD.

OKAY, FORGET EVERYTHING I SAID EARLIER. THIS MIGHT ALL ACTUALLY BE WORTH YOUR DAD BRUTALLY MURDERING ME. MOVING BOOKCASES? ***SECRET PASSAGEWAYS?***

ALL RIGHT, DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS-- TAKE IT EASY. KNOWING DADDY, IT'S PROBABLY JUST AN EVEN ***STUFFIER*** STUDY BACK HERE.

EVEN ***SO!*** THIS IS...

...AWESOME.

WELL--

--LET'S DIG IN.

"SO, YOU THINK THE REASON RONNIE IS ACTING SO WEIRD IS BECAUSE OF THIS FANGS KID?"

"THAT'S ***EXACTLY*** WHAT I THINK. I MEAN, LOOK--"

"HE SHOWS UP RIGHT WHEN ALL THIS WEIRD STUFF HAS BEEN GOING ON. COINCIDENCE? ***HARDLY***. NOT ONLY ***THAT...***"

"...BUT I SAW HIM AND VERONICA GET INTO SOME KIND OF ARGUMENT THIS MORNING.

"SOMETHING'S GOING ON HERE, BETTY."

AND WE'RE GOING TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF IT.

WELL, ARCHIE, BY THE LOOKS OF THINGS...

"...WE WON'T HAVE TO BE DIGGING FOR LONG."

YOU RANG, BOSS MAN?

SPEAK FOR ***YOURSELF***, LUCY. LOST BOY HERE ISN'T THE BOSS OF ***ME***.

THEN FIND ANOTHER CLAN, MANTLE. WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR ANY LOOSE CANNON BS--UNLIKE YOU, WE ACTUALLY HAVE SKIN IN THIS GAME.

Oh, *RIIIGHT*. BECAUSE BEING A VAMPIRE IS ***EXACTLY*** WHAT I WANTED OUT OF LIFE.

ENOUGH. I DIDN'T CALL YOU HERE TO ***BICKER***, AND IT'S BORING ANYWAY.

FIRST OF ALL--

LUCY, IF YOU AND MARKO ***EVER*** PULL A STUNT LIKE YOU DID THE OTHER DAY, YOU'LL ANSWER TO ***ME***.

Awwww, WHAT'S THE MATTER, FANGS? GETTING SWEET ON LITTLE PRINCESS LODGE?

WE'RE NOT HERE TO ***HURT*** HER, YOU IDIOT. WE ***NEED*** HER.

YOU'RE RIGHT, WE ***DO*** NEED HER. SO WE SHOULD ***TAKE*** HER.

WHAT IF I DON'T WANT TO STICK TO YOUR PLAN? WHAT HAPPENS IF I WANT TO MAKE MY ***OWN*** PLAN?

THEN...

...YOU'LL ANSWER TO *ME*.

MR. LODGE, I...WE WERE JUST--

SILENCE.

IF YOU WEREN'T ***NEEDED***, I'D HAVE YOU BLED DRIER THAN ***SAWDUST***.

WE HAD A SIMPLE ARRANGEMENT, DID WE NOT? NOT A ***HAIR*** ON MY DAUGHTER'S HEAD WAS TO BE HARMED. WHICH PART OF THAT CONFUSED YOU?

NO PART, SIR. IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN.

SEE THAT IT ***DOESN'T***.

AS FOR THE ***REST*** OF YOU, UNDERSTAND THAT THE ***GIFT*** I'M OFFERING YOU IS GREATER THAN YOU COULD ***EVER*** HOPE OR ASK FOR. I HOLD YOUR FREEDOM IN THE PALM OF MY HAND.

DON'T MAKE ME CLENCH MY ***FIST***.

THE TIME IS NEARLY UPON US-- ALL OF YOU NEED TO BE ***FOCUSED*** AND ***READY*** WHEN IT COMES.

WE WILL BE.

WE ***ARE***.

YOU'D BETTER BE...

"...WE EITHER SUCCEED, OR WE DIE."

...MR. LODGE?

REGGIE?

WE HAVE TO TELL VERONICA. WE HAVE TO...WHAT DO WE ***EVEN*** SAY?

I--I DON'T KNOW. BUT THIS IS ***BAD***. THIS IS--

KLANG

WHAT WAS ***THAT?***

IT'S ***NOTHING!***

YOU HEARD MR. LODGE. IF WE WANT OUR ***FREEDOM***, THIS IS OUR ***ONLY*** CHANCE.

A HUMAN. FRIGGIN'. *BRAIN.*

WHY DOES YOUR DAD HAVE A *BRAIN?*

AND LOOK AT THIS! AN OLD PLAYER PIANO. AGAIN--*WHY?*

THOUGH I WONDER...

...I WONDER WHAT SONG IT *PLAYS.*

DILTON.

I'M GUESSING ALL THIS STUFF ARE THINGS MY *VAMPIRE FAMILY* HAS COLLECTED THROUGHOUT THE AGES. THE ODDS THAT THIS JUNK IS EITHER CURSED OR EVIL ARE PRETTY GOOD. SO MAYBE IT'D BE SMART TO LEAVE IT *ALONE*.

BESIDES...

...I FOUND *THIS*.

WHOA. THAT LOOKS *REAL* OLD.

YEAH. AND THE CASE IS LOCKED, SO I GUESS WE'RE OUT OF LU--

Oh NO WHOOPS.

SSHH

HEEEEEY, REMEMBER HOW YOU POINTED OUT HOW THIS STUFF IS PROBABLY EVIL AND CURSED? JUST A SECOND AGO?

YEAH, WELL, *I'M* WILLING TO TAKE THAT RISK.

AND IT'S A GOOD THING, TOO.

BECAUSE I JUST FOUND THE JOURNAL OF ONE ***SIR FRANCIS LODGE***.

OR IN OTHER WORDS: ***JACKPOT***.

♪BRRRNNNG BRRRNNNG♪

♪BRRRNNNG BRRRNNNG♪

♪BRRRNNNG BRRRNNNG♪

♪BRRRNNNG BRRR--

I TRUST THIS A ***PRESSING*** CONCERN.

IT IS, MASTER.

YOU WAS RIGHT. *SHE'S* BACK IN THIS WORLD...

SHE'S BACK, AND SHE'S KINDA *DIGGING*.

VERY WELL.

I'LL ATTEND TO THE MATTER...

PERSONALLY.

TO BE
CONTINUED

CHAPTER THREE

COVER ART BY AUDREY MOK

STORY BY FRANK TIERI & MICHAEL MORECI ART BY AUDREY MOK
COLORING BY MATT HERMS LETTERING BY JACK MORELLI

PLEASE... I *SWEAR* TO YOU, GOOD SIR...

WE ARE NOT CARRYING ANY TREASURE UPON THIS VESSEL!

SLIT

TREASURE?

Oh, MY POOR, DEAR LAD. *TRUST* ME...

'TIS NOT *TREASURE* I'M AFTER.

OKAY, LADS... LET'S ROUND 'EM UP.

WHY, MAY I ASK, CAPTAIN?

MY, BUT THAT SOUNDS SUSPICIOUSLY LIKE SOMEONE QUESTIONING ONE OF MY ORDERS. OR AM I BEING TOO SENSITIVE, MATEY?

APOLOGIES, CAPTAIN LODGE. IT'S JUST THAT... WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF US ALWAYS COLLECTING THE DEAD CREW OF THE VESSELS WE PLUNDER?

WOULDN'T THAT SHIP SPACE BE BETTER SERVED WITH MORE STOLEN CARGO?

JUST SEEMS ***STRANGE,*** IS ALL...

Hmn. THAT IS ALL, INDEED...

SLUSSH

NOW BRING HIM AS WELL.

UNLESS SOMEONE ***ELSE*** HAS A QUESTION?

They didn't.

The year was 1589 and I was a privateer and the undisputed commander of The Night Flyer...

A ship in the service of our fair virgin Queen Elizabeth...

SLLT

And in service...

Of my completely unabated vampiric whims.

Until one day it wasn't.

WHAM

WHAT? WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS INTRU-SION?

IT'S **OVER**, CAPTAIN.

AND WHAT MIGHT ***THAT*** BE EXACTLY, LADS?

YOU'VE TURNED THE SEVEN SEAS ***RED*** FOR FAR TOO LONG WITH YOUR ***DEBAUCHERY***, CAPTAIN.

WE KNOW WHAT YOU ***ARE***, SIR FRANCIS. WE KNOW WHAT YOU'VE ***DONE***.

CONSIDER THIS A ***MUTINY***.

MUTINY? HOW LAUGHABLE. IF YOU DO INDEED KNOW WHAT I AM...

HOW EXACTLY DO YOU WALKING SACKS OF MEAT INTEND TO ***STOP*** ME?

BLAM BLAM

BLAM

AAHH!!

SILVER.

LIKE I *SAID*, CAPTAIN... WE KNOW WHAT YOU ARE.

AND WE CAME PREPARED.

HOPE YOU FIND THOSE SILVER CHAINS COMFORTABLE...

'CAUSE YOU'LL BE WEARING 'EM AT THE BOTTOM OF DAVY JONES' LOCKER FOR ALL ETERNITY.

WAIT...

SPARE...ME. SPARE ME AND... I'LL MAKE YOU ALL...LIKE ME...

TOGETHER... WE CAN RULE THE OCEANS BLUE... UNTIL THE...END OF DAYS...

THE ONLY DAYS THAT ARE ENDING ARE ***YOURS*** RIGHT NOW, YOU BLOODSUCKIN' ***BASTARD!***

BLAM

AHAHAHA!!

My first mate's prediction certainly appeared to be an accurate one at that moment, 'twas sure.

Bleeding out, weakened from the silver bullets and chains, drowning as I was.

And that was before the shark arrived.

The beast sank his teeth into my flesh as I had done to victims of my own many times before.

As I started to lose consciousness, it was only then did I realize...

Death wasn't as imminent as I once thought.

I drained the shark...

...its nutrients replenishing me, healing me...

Enabling me to free myself from my chains and make my way towards land.

I washed up upon the shores of a place I knew not.

Exhausted and still weak, I required immediate sustenance.

Fortunately for me...

SNIKT

This new world did not disappoint in that area.

As it turned out, however...

The native peoples did not appreciate the nature of our relationship.

They hunted me day and night.

I was left with no choice but to trek inward. To find some place I could call my own.

Days turned into weeks. I managed to evade my pursuers, living off whatever wildlife I could find, but still...

I grew weary.

I had all but given up hope until one day I followed the course of a river...

A river I christened the River Dale...

And I found it.

The place I would build my new life around. The place I would call home.

The place I would call Riverdale.

Time passed. And as it did...

So too went my seclusion. By the 1600s, colonists had arrived by the boatload...

I was more than happy to welcome my new neighbors. After all...

It was like having a market right next door.

But the occasional missing resident would not hinder Riverdale's progress.

Eventually, it flourished into quite the happy little community. That is...

Until they came.

Werewolves.

Vile vicious creatures I wished I would never encounter again. And yet here they were, bringing their plague to my New World, bringing their savagery and chaos...

And by 1754...

Bringing war.

A war that would eventually come to a very bloody head.

Though I had turned many vampires during my time in the new world, ever did I remain the dominant force.

KRRK

Without me, the vampire forces would surely fall.

The werewolves knew that.

Which is why I should've better anticipated the attempt on my life.

CHUK

RIIIP

SLLSSSH

In another world perhaps, I fall that day...

And the werewolves win the war.

CHK

RRRIIIPP

But not in this one.

"WAIT A SECOND..."

WHAT?

WHAT IS IT?

SOMETHING JUST OCCURRED TO ME.

SIR FRANCIS *DIED* IN THE WEREWOLF ATTACK IN JUG WOLF'S WORLD... BUT HE SURVIVES HERE.

YEAH... *SO?*

SO DON'T YOU GET IT?

SKIP TO THE BACK OF THE JOURNAL... IT DOESN'T TELL YOU WHEN HE DIES. MEANING, BEING A VAMPIRE AND ALL...

HE COULD STILL BE *ALIVE*.

O. M. FRIGGIN' G! I DIDN'T THINK OF THAT.

BUT... BUT THAT CAN'T BE, RIGHT? I MEAN...

"IF SIR FRANCIS *WASN'T* DEAD IN OUR REALITY...

"HE WOULD'VE REVEALED HIMSELF BY NOW, WOULDN'T HE?"

TO BE
CONTINUED

CHAPTER FOUR

COVER ART BY AUDREY MOK

STORY BY FRANK TIERI & MICHAEL MORECI

ART BY AUDREY MOK (1-15) & JOE EISMA (16-25) LETTERING BY JACK MORELLI

COLORING BY MATT HERMS & RYAN JAMPOLE (16-25 RENDERING)

PICKENS PARK.

GENERAL PICKE

"LOOK, RONNIE, WHAT WE HAVE TO TELL YOU...IT'S KINDA SENSITIVE IN NATURE."

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU WANT KEVIN HERE FOR THIS.

NO OFFENSE, KEV.

ACTUALLY, KEVIN STAYS.

KEVIN, IF YOU WOULD?

HISSSS!

GAAH!!

OKAY, *OKAY!* POINT TAKEN! *LITERALLY.*

GEEZ, LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN A *VAMPIRE* BEFORE.

YEAH, SORRY IF I NEVER QUITE GET USED TO PEOPLE WHO WANT TO SUCK DOWN MY BLOOD LIKE ONE OF POP'S MALTS. ANYWAY...

KEVIN, FOR CRISSAKES! I MEAN... HOW--WHEN? *WHAT?*

ACTUALLY, YOU KNOW WHAT--FORGET *ALL* THAT FOR A SECOND.

VERONICA, WE CALLED YOU HERE BECAUSE... THIS ISN'T EASY TO SAY, BUT...

BETTY AND ME, WE WERE FOLLOWING ***FANGS***. DUDE'S CREEPY AS ***HELL*** AND WE'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT YOU AND...WE JUST WANTED TO HELP. RONNIE, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO ***SAY*** THIS, BUT--

FANGS, HE--

HE'S WORKING FOR YOUR ***DAD***.

HE--***WHAT?*** WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

WE SAW THEM TOGETHER, RONNIE. UNDER THE BLEACHERS. YOUR DAD, HE WAS GIVING FANGS ORDERS. AND ***THREATS***.

LIKE AN UNDERBOSS.

NO. MORE LIKE...LIKE...

LIKE HE ***OWNS*** US.

WHICH, IN A WAY, HE ***DOES***.

Oh, SO NOW--WHAT? WE'RE SUPPOSED TO FEEL ***SORRY*** FOR YOU?

LOOK, I'M SORRY FOR WHAT I DID TO YOU. I AM. BUT I'LL BE ***DAMNED*** IF I'M GOING TO LET YOU PUT MY FRIENDS IN DANGER AND THEN EXPECT SYMPATHY FOR THE EFFORT.

YOU STILL DON'T GET IT, DO YOU, YOU SPOILED ***BRAT?***

YOU DON'T KNOW THE ***POWER*** YOUR KIND HAS OVER US, DO YOU?

OR MAYBE YOU ***DO***, AND YOU DON'T EVEN ***CARE***.

FANGS--FANGS, WAIT. WHAT DO YOU ***MEAN*** THE POWER WE HAVE OVER YOU. WHAT...WHAT ***POWER?***

DON'T LISTEN TO ***HIM!*** HE'S NOT EVEN WORTH IT!

I'M NOT ***WORTH*** IT?

I'M NOT WORTH IT?!

BECAUSE YOU'RE SO MUCH BETTER THAN ME, AREN'T YOU, KELLER?

WE'LL JUST SEE ABOUT ***THAT.***

AAAHHH!!

OOF!

YOU'RE *WEAK*, KELLER.

ALL OF YOU ARE.

ENOUGH!

I SAID--

ENOUGH!

KKRRRSSSSH

YOU KNOW, VERONICA--YOU'RE LUCKY YOU'RE *CUTE*.

BECAUSE YOU'RE *REALLY* STARTING TO PISS ME OFF. AND CUTE ONLY GOES *SO FAR*.

THEN HOW ABOUT WE BRING YOU HER CUTE ***HEAD?***

WHY DON'T YOU COME AND ***GET IT***, HOT TOPIC?

NO--WE'RE NOT GOING THAT ROUTE. BECAUSE, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I'M THE ***ONLY ONE*** HERE WHO'S TRYING TO HELP YOU, VERONICA.

IF THAT'S THE CASE, I'D HATE TO SEE WHAT IT'S LIKE WHEN YOU'RE ***NOT*** HELPING.

BELIEVE ME...YOU'D KNOW.

ANYWAY, AGAIN...WHAT POWER DO WE HAVE OVER YOU?

NO. SORRY... YOU DON'T GET TO COPY MY PAPER.

YOU WANT ANSWERS, GO OUT AND GET THEM. FIND OUT FOR YOURSELF.

WHEN YOU REALIZE I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO UNDERSTANDS YOU...WHO TRULY UNDERSTANDS YOU...

COME FIND ME.

MAN, THAT GUY IS SUCH A *JERK*.

MAJOR.

BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN HE'S WRONG.

PLEASE TELL ME I'M NOT HEARING THIS. PLEASE TELL ME YOU'RE NOT ACTUALLY ***LISTENING*** TO LOST BOY LITE, ARE YOU?

SOMETHING'S GOING ON HERE, KEV. SOMETHING BIGGER THAN ALL OF US. AND CONSIDERING WE'RE ***VAMPIRES***...THAT'S A HELL OF A LOT.

ONCE AND FOR ALL, I WANT TO KNOW WHO WE ARE.

AND THERE'S ONLY ***ONE*** PERSON WHO CAN TELL ME.

THE LODGE HOME.

SO IT'S TRUE... SIR FRANCIS LODGE IS STILL ALIVE?

HE *IS*.

AND HE'S GOING TO *KILL YOU*.

FRANCIS LODGE IS WHAT WE CALL AN ***APEX VAMPIRE***, SWEETHEART. AND WHAT THAT MEANS IS THAT HE FEEDS ON OTHER VAMPIRES.

EWW. GROSS.

IS ***THAT*** WHY WE'RE SO AFRAID OF HIM?

BECAUSE I REALLY NEED YOU TO TELL ME ***WHY***.

RIGHT HERE. RIGHT NOW. ENOUGH WITH THE HALF TRUTHS AND TERRIBLE LIES, DADDY.

VERONICA, THAT STUNT I PULLED, TRYING TO TRICK YOU INTO THINKING YOU WERE CURED OF YOUR VAMPIRISM--

YES... IT WAS A TERRIBLE ***LIE***.

BUT SOMETIMES WE TELL TERRIBLE LIES FOR GOOD REASONS.

Oh, HOW I WANTED YOUR VAMPIRISM TO GO AWAY ***FOR REAL***. BUT...BUT YOU'RE JUST TOO DAMNED ***POWERFUL***.

AND THAT'S THE PROBLEM.

I'M NOT LIKE YOU, VERONICA. I ***AM***, IN SOME WAYS. BUT THERE'S NO ONE QUITE LIKE YOU.

NO ONE EXCEPT SIR FRANCIS LODGE.

YOU'RE LIKE HIM, VERONICA. YOU'RE AN APEX.

WHAT?! I DON'T ***WANT*** TO EAT OTHER VAMPIRES, DADDY. THEY SEEM LIKE THEY'D BE... FATTENING.

HOW THE ***HELL*** DID THIS HAPPEN, ANYWAY?

I DON'T KNOW, SWEETHEART. I'VE SPENT YOUR ENTIRE LIFE TRYING TO ANSWER THAT VERY QUESTION. I THOUGHT IF I COULD FIND OUT WHY, THEN I COULD FIND OUT HOW TO GET RID OF IT.

ALL I KNOW IS APEX VAMPIRISM TRAVELS THROUGH BLOODLINES. FRANCIS WAS THE FIRST IN OUR LINE, AND IT'S SKIPPED HOWEVER MANY GENERATIONS...

...ONLY TO LAND ON ***YOU***.

OKAY... ***FINE***.

THEN, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO ***DO*** ABOUT IT?

NOTHING! WE'RE GOING TO DO ***NOTHING***, VERONICA. THAT'S THE POINT. DON'T YOU SEE?

I TRIED TO GET RID OF THIS, I'VE TRIED TO KEEP YOU HIDDEN.

YOU ***MUST*** STAY AWAY FROM FRANCIS. HE ***WANTS*** WHAT YOU HAVE, AND HE'LL DO ***ANYTHING*** TO GET IT.

BUT--***WHY?*** IF HE'S AN APEX, AND I'M AN APEX, THEN--

HE'S AN ***AGING*** APEX, VERONICA. HE FEASTS NOW TO STAY ALIVE. BUT ONLY ONE THING CAN BRING BACK HIS VITALITY--

FEASTING ON ***YOU.***

Uh, NO-- I'M NOT GOING TO BE A ***NOSFERATU NOSH*** FOR ANYONE, DADDY. IF HE'S COMING, WE HAVE TO DO SOME-THING!

HE'S NOT COMING...

HE'S ALREADY ***HERE.***

AND IF WE'RE LUCKY, HE'S HEADING RIGHT INTO MY TRAP.

TRAP? DADDY, WHAT TRA--

FANGS.

THAT'S WHY YOU BROUGHT HIM HERE-- HIM AND THE OTHERS? YOU WANT HIM TO DO YOUR DIRTY WORK-- YOU WANT FANGS AND HIS CREW TO TAKE ON SIR FRANCIS, AN ***APEX VAMPIRE?***

IT'S WORTH A SHOT.

NOT IF YOU'RE FANGS, IT'S NOT. HE'LL BE ***SLAUGHTERED.***

VERONICA! WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?

I'M GOING TO PROTECT MY FRIENDS, DADDY. AND YOU CAN'T STOP ME.

IF SIR FRANCIS LODGE WANTS SOME-THING FROM ME...

...I'D LIKE TO SEE HIM TRY TO ***TAKE*** IT.

"VERONICA! HEY, VERONICA!"

HOW'D IT GO? WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

Oh, NOT MUCH. JUST THAT WHEN MY GREAT GREAT GREAT GRANDPA SAYS "LET'S DO LUNCH," HE MEANS ***ME***. APPARENTLY, HAVING A PIECE OF KENTUCKY FRIED VERONICA IS LIKE THE VAMPIRE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH OR SOMETHING.

Oh, AND MY DAD LOVES ME ***SO MUCH*** THAT HE'D SACRIFICE SOME TEENAGE CHESS PIECES TO KEEP ME SAFE.

SO, YEAH-- I LEARNED ALL ***THAT***.

LISTEN, I ***NEED*** TO FIND FANGS. IS HE HERE? HAVE YOU SEEN HIM?

Uh, YEAH. HE'S RIGHT OVER--

--THERE.

ARE YOU ***CRAZY?*** WHAT ARE YOU ***DOING*** HERE?

I CAME HERE TO STOP YOU FROM GETTING KILLED, JERK. YOU'RE ***WELCOME***.

YEAH. I THOUGHT SO.

Oh, ***GOD***. GET OVER YOURSE--

AIEEEEE!!

THAT'S NOT A COSTUME! THAT'S NOT A COSTUME! TH-THAT'S NOT--
NOT A COSTUME. YES, I THINK WE'VE GOT IT BY NOW, MY DEAR.
Ah, TEEN-AGERS.
I FORGOT HOW DRAMATIC YOU CAN BE.
AND DELICIOUS.

Oh, YEAH? WELL YOU'RE *OLD*.

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO *DIE* LIKE *SOON*.

NO, VERONICA.

NOT *THIS* ONE.

KKRRSSHHH

GET HIM!

THIS WITHERED OLD BASTARD **LOOKS** LIKE A CORPSE-- SO LET'S **MAKE** HIM ONE!

SWAKK

VERONICA-- ***LISTEN.***

YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND WHO YOU ***ARE***, ONCE AND FOR ALL. YOU'RE--

YEAH, ***YEAH***, YEAH.

APEX VAMPIRE. EATS ***OTHER*** VAMPIRES.

DOESN'T SOUND ABSOLUTELY ***INSANE*** AT ALL.

YOU CAN DO ***MORE*** THAN THAT--

YOU CAN ***CONTROL*** VAMPIRES--***ALL*** OF US.

WAIT-- I CAN ***WHAT*** NOW?

WHAT ***FREEDOM*** DO YOU THINK WE'RE FIGHTING ***FOR***? APEXES CAN TAKE US OVER, COMPLETELY. YOU CAN--

LITTLE-- LITTLE ***HELP*** OVER HERE!

IT'S THE ONLY CHANCE WE HAVE.

USE US, ***ALL*** OF US-- WITH OUR COMBINED STRENGTH, MAYBE WE CAN--

YOU CAN ***WHAT?***

STOP ME? PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH, CHILDREN

I MAY BE NOT BE *MYSELF* RIGHT NOW-- I CAN'T CONTROL THE WHOLE LOT OF YOU AT THE MOMENT, BUT...

...I CAN STILL PICK THE *BEST* OF THE LOT.

THIS *OAF?* BETWEEN ME AND MY FREEDOM? YEAH...

I DON'T THINK *SO.*

GAAAHHH!

GUH!!

MARKO!

YOU SONS OF BITCHES! WE'LL CUT YOUR UNDEAD HEARTS OUT! WE'LL--

YOU'LL REMAIN ***SILENT*** AS I HAVE A WORD WITH MY DESCENDANT.

VERONICA, DARLING, HOW MANY ***MORE*** DO YOU WANT TO SEE DEAD? THE VAMPIRES, HUMANS. SOME OF THEM? ***ALL*** OF THEM? BELIEVE ME... IT CERTAINLY DOESN'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE TO ***ME***.

YOU CANNOT RUN FROM ME. YOU CANNOT HIDE.

AND THERE ARE NO LENGTHS I WON'T GO TO IN ORDER TO GET MY POWER BACK TO WHAT IT ONCE WAS.

IT'S UP TO ***YOU*** TO DETERMINE HOW MANY MUST DIE BEFORE I GET MY HANDS ON--

NO.

YOU'RE NOT HURTING *ANYONE* ANYMORE. ESPECIALLY NOT--

SKRAK

--MY *DAUGHTER!*

VERONICA, YOU HAVE TO DO IT-- *NOW!*

BUT FANGS, MY DAD, HE--

CAN HANDLE HIMSELF, FOR THE MOMENT.

TAKE CONTROL OF US. TOGETHER, WITH YOUR DAD, IT MIGHT BE ENOUGH TO STOP SIR FRANCIS.

IT'S THE *ONLY* WAY.

BUT I, *Uhhh...*

I KIND OF DON'T KNOW *HOW.*

IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S A *HANDBOOK* FOR THIS STUFF, YOU KNOW?

IT'S ALL THERE. *IN* YOU.

JUST *CONCENTRATE.*

HMM. VAMPIRE JEDI MIND TRICKS. I'VE EXPERIENCED A *LOT* OF WEIRDNESS THE PAST FEW MONTHS--BUT THIS MIGHT JUST TAKE THE CAKE.

CONCENTRATE. *CONCENTRATE.*

VERONICA...

...I THINK YOU'VE *GOT* IT.

NO--SHE *CAN'T.*

SHE CAN'T!

SHE CAN'T!!

VERONICA--

NO!

ARGH!

SHUNK

DADDY!!

YOU, GREAT GRANDFATHER. YOU...

...YOU *SHOULDN'T* HAVE DONE THAT.

YOU'VE HAD A LONG LIFE--BUT IT ENDS.

TONIGHT.

READY TO *DIE*, YOU CREEPY OLD FREAK?

I DIDN'T LIVE THIS LONG LOSING BATTLES, MY DEAR.

LET'S SEE WHAT YOU'VE GOT.

THOK

HMN. WELL STRUCK.

NOW IT'S *MY* TURN.

KRAK

WOK

HOW ***DARE*** YOU OPPOSE ME.

I'VE BEEN AROUND LONG BEFORE AMERICA WAS EVEN IN DIAPERS.

AND NOW YOU'LL SEE ***WHY.***

WHAT? MOOSE?!

SMASH

NOT MOOSE...

MOOSE THROUGH ME.

LET IT NEVER BE SAID VERONICA LODGE CAN'T MANIPULATE MEN TO DO WHAT SHE WANTS. NOW QUITE LITERALLY.

Ah, VERONICA... YOU ARE A PRIZE INDEED.

UNTIL NEXT TIME, MY DEAR. AND MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT...

KAF! KAF!

KAF! KAF!

KAF! KAF!

KAF! KAF!

KAF! KAF!

KAF! KAF!

KAF!

DADDY!

...THERE *WILL* BE A NEXT TIME.

PLEASE--***PLEASE***. TELL ME WHAT I CAN DO. HOW DO I...I HAVE TO ***SAVE*** YOU.

SWEET-HEART... THAT'S A PARENT'S JOB.

JUST... YOU MUST KNOW...

I ACTUALLY WAS TRYING TO HELP FANGS. I WAS. IF WE KILLED FRANCIS, HE'D BE FREE--WE'D ALL BE...BE FREE.

THAT'S... ALL I... WANT.

YOU TO BE SAFE AND...

"...TO BE *FREE*."

DADDYKINS? DADDY?

NO...***NO***. DADDYKINS, DON'T LEAVE ME...

DON'T LEAVE ME.

ONE WEEK LATER.

Vic's DINER

YOU *SURE* THIS IS WHAT YOU WANT?

NO, BUT... WHAT *ELSE* AM I GOING TO DO?

I CAN'T LIVE MY LIFE LOOKING OVER MY SHOULDER, WAITING FOR SOME CREEPY OLD PIRATE DUDE TO COME KILL ME AND SUCK ME DRY.

AND LET'S NOT FORGET-- THAT CAPTAIN FANGFACE ACED MY DAD. I'M GOING TO GIVE HIM WHAT HE'S GOT COMING. AND THEN SOME.

WE HAVE TO BE *SMART*, THEN. THERE'S NO DOUBT FRANCIS IS ALREADY RALLYING VAMPIRES TO HIS SIDE. WE HAVE TO DO THE SAME--WHATEVER ALLIES WE CAN FIND, WE'LL NEED THEM. *ALL* OF THEM.

BUT *MOST* OF ALL...

WE HAVE TO WORK *TOGETHER*. WHAT YOU DID AT THE DANCE, VERONICA-- CONTROLLING US?

YOU *HAD* TO. BUT...IT'S FROWNED UPON BY THE VAMPIRE COMMUNITY.

THAT CAN *NEVER* HAPPEN AGAIN.

YOU HAVE MY WORD. I *PROMISE*.

ALL RIGHT, THEN. REVENGE AND FREEDOM IT IS.

I PERSONALLY CAN'T THINK OF A *BETTER* REASON TO GO ON A SUICIDE MISSION TO TRY AND KILL A CENTURIES OLD VAMPIRE GUY. PLUS...

...IT GIVES ME AND YOU THE CHANCE TO GET A LITTLE... *CLOSER*.

I KNEW IT. I *KNEW* YOU COULDN'T HOLD THAT MOMENT AND JUST LET IT BE.

HEY, AT LEAST YOU KNOW WHERE I STAND.

AND *YOU* TWO! WHENEVER YOU'RE READY!

HEY, BURGERS *THIS* RAW AIN'T EASY TO COME BY!

Oh, WHAT? YOU'RE DONE FLIRTING NOW WITH THE PRINCESS NOW?

LISTEN--WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER NOW. WE EITHER ACCEPT THAT, OR WE'LL ALL BE DEAD BEFORE WE HIT THE STATE LINE.

AND, LOOK-- I KNOW FOR A *FACT* THAT FRANCIS *CAN* BE KILLED. IT HAPPENED--IN A DIFFERENT UNIVERSE, BUT HE DIED ALL THE SAME.

IF HE CAN GET KILLED *ONCE*...

"THEN WE CAN KILL THAT SON OF A BITCH AGAIN."

THE END

VARIANT COVER GALLERY

ART BY LAURA BRAGA

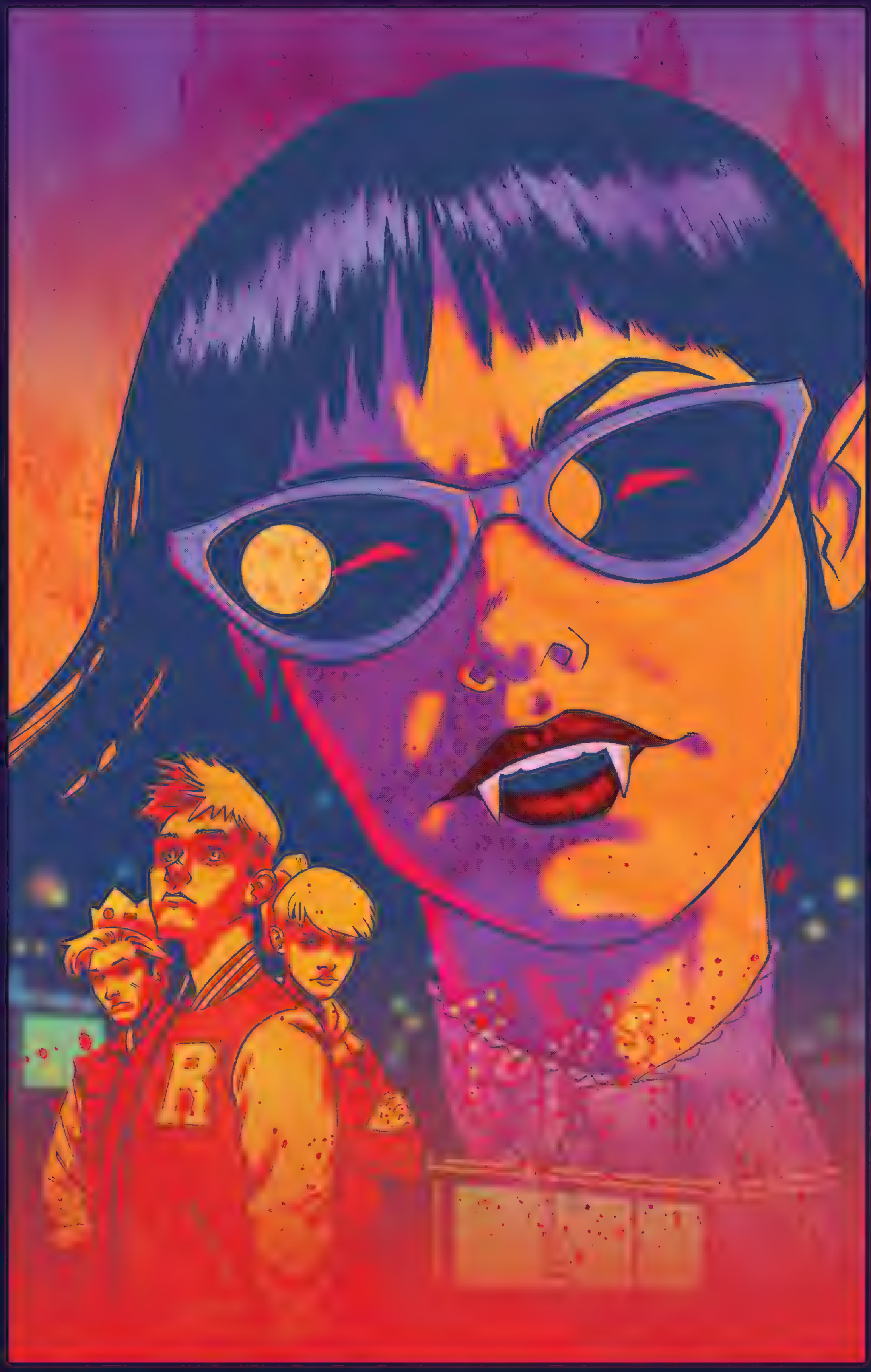
ART BY REBEKAH ISAACS

ART BY GREG SMALLWOOD

ART BY WILFREDO TORRES

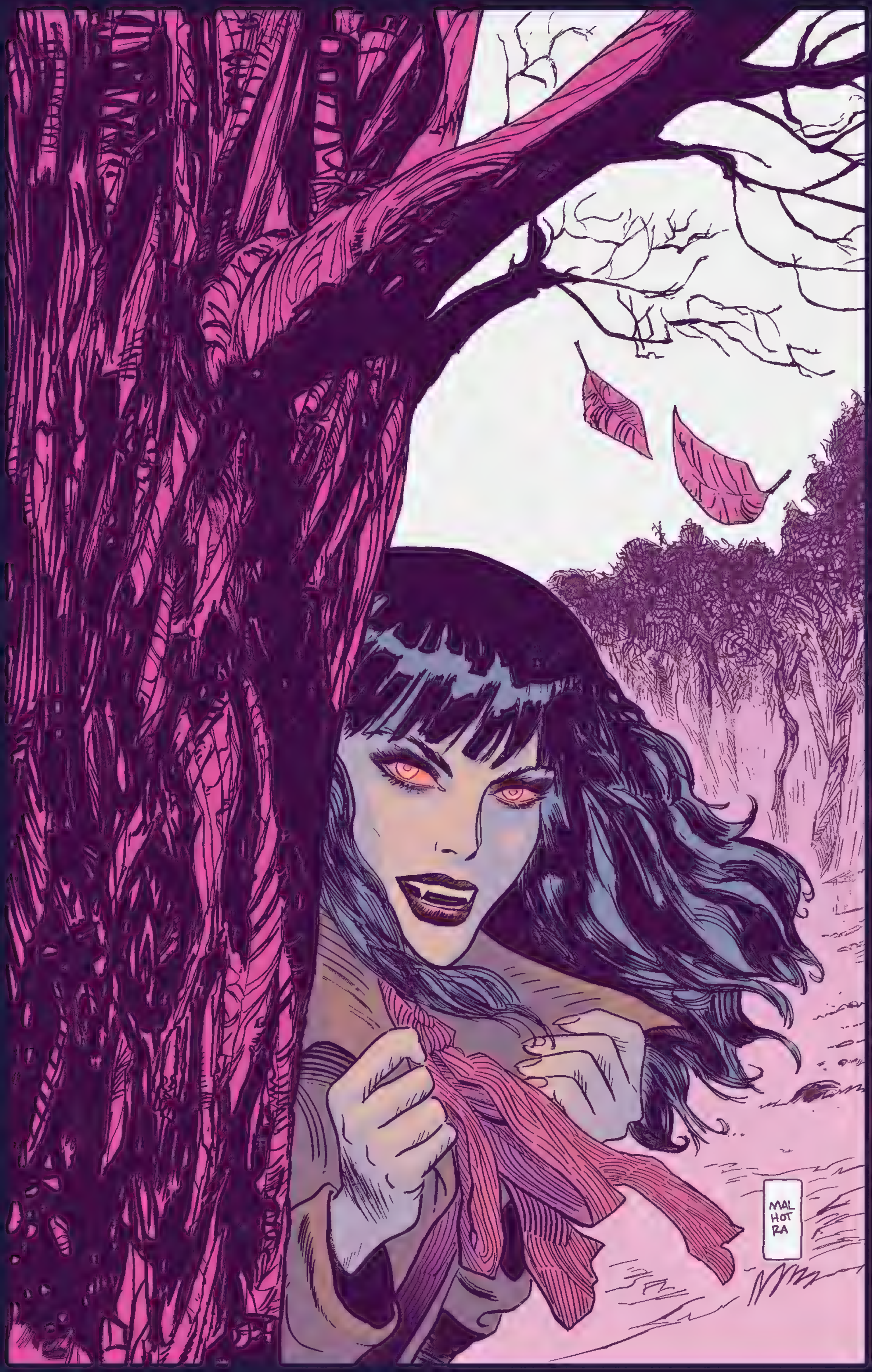
ART BY MEGAN HUTCHISON

ART BY GREG SMALLWOOD



ART BY ADAM GORHAM

ART BY GREG SMALLWOOD



ART BY VIC MALHOTRA

ART BY LISA STERLE

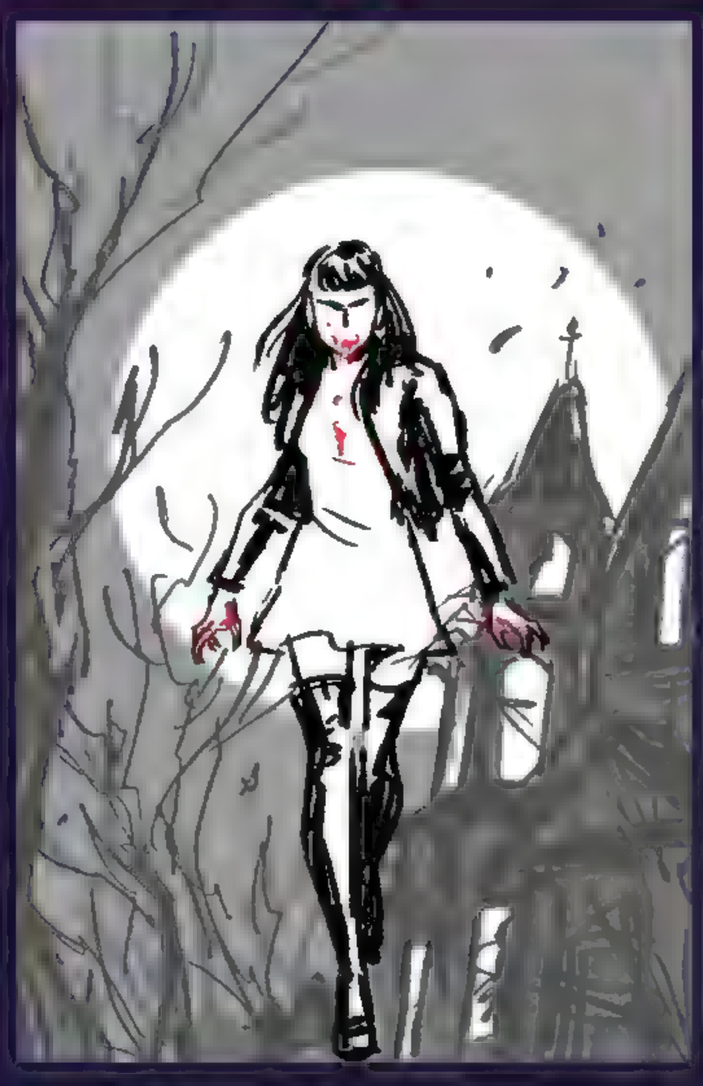
COVER SKETCHES

Before going ahead with the final cover, series artist Audrey Mok submits cover sketches for the editorial team to review.

Take a look at the sketches and final cover art for *Vampironica: New Blood*.

ISSUE ONE

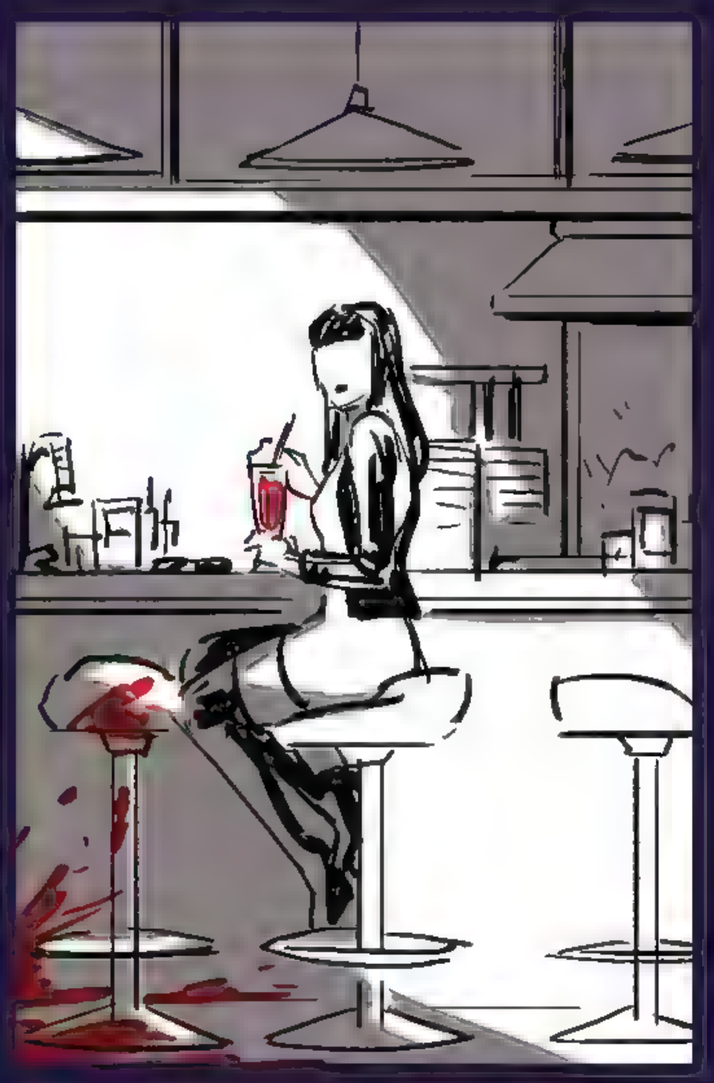
FINAL ART



COVER SKETCHES

ISSUE TWO

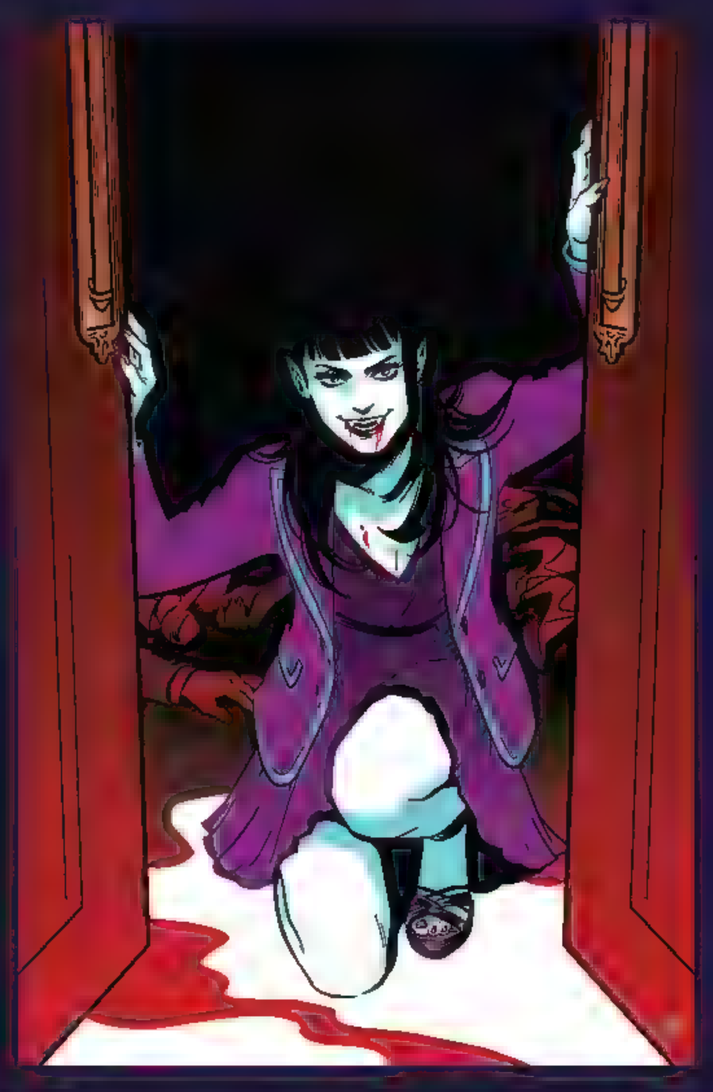
FINAL ART



COVER SKETCH

ISSUE THREE

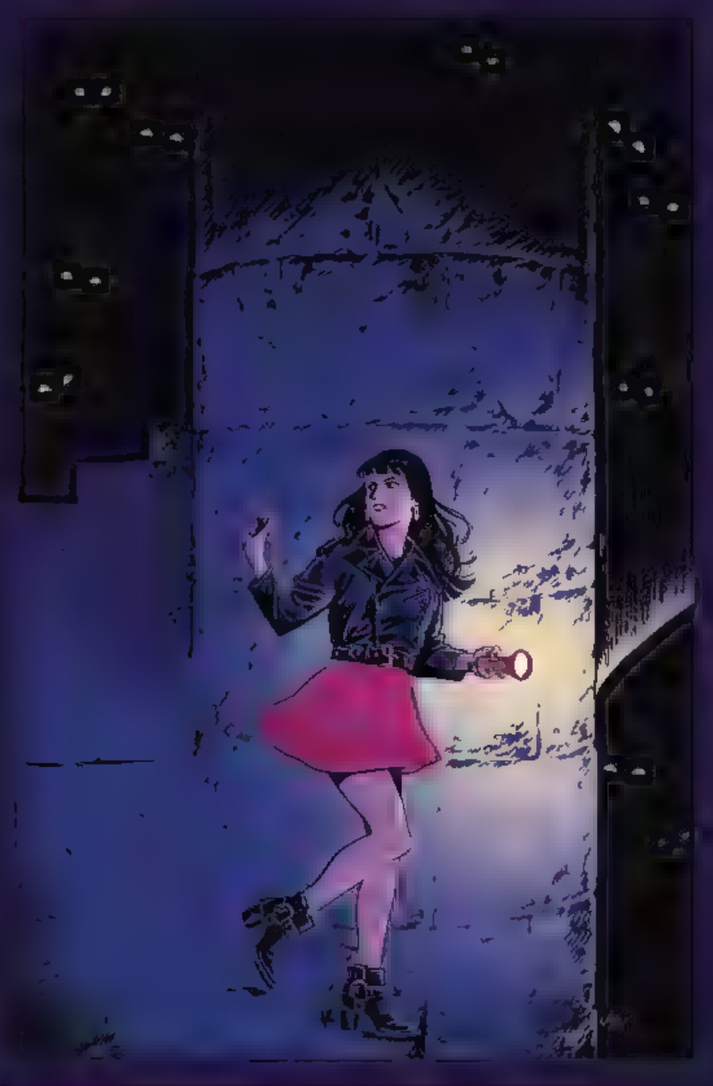
COVER SKETCH



FINAL ART

ISSUE FOUR

COVER SKETCHES



FINAL ART

BONUS COMIC: ARCHIE & KATY KEENE

There's a new girl in Riverdale and she's turning everyone's heads—and NOT everyone is happy about that! Who is Katy Keene and why is she so Insta-famous and beloved in Riverdale? And, moreover, why is she quickly becoming Archie's biggest competition? Find out in this bonus peek of the all-new story arc with the characters that inspired The CW series *Katy Keene!*

STORY BY MARIKO TAMAKI & KEVIN PANETTA ART BY LAURA BRAGA
COLORING BY MATT HERMS LETTERING BY JACK MORELLI

RIVERDALE.

POPULATION: NOT MANY

WHAT DO PEOPLE SAY ABOUT SMALL TOWNS?

WELCOME TO

Riverdale

THE TOWN WITH PEP

WHAT *DO* PEOPLE SAY ABOUT SMALL TOWNS?

EVERYBODY KNOWS EVERYBODY.

THAT'S RIGHT.

EVERYONE KNOWS EACH OTHER'S BUSINESS, YOUR FAMILY HISTORY, YOUR ALLERGIES, A VARIETY OF THINGS YOU WOULD SOMETIMES RATHER NOT KNOW.

DELETE
DELETE
DELETE
DELETE
DELETE

ALL THIS INFORMATION IS EITHER STAGGERINGLY ANNOYING OR QUAINT ON ANY GIVEN DAY.

WHO IS SHE?

...I DON'T KNOW. BUT HER PHOTOS ARE AWESOME.

IT DOES EXPLAIN WHY SMALL TOWNS LIKE SOMETHING NEW.

OKAY! NEW SONG!

I THOUGHT I WOULD PUT IT UP ONLINE. YOU KNOW, AFTER THE SHOW TONIGHT?

READY WHEN YOU ARE.

ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR...

KEENE RESIDENCE

WHERE IS SHE?

WHERE DO YOU THINK?

ARE YOU READY FOR SCHOOL?

AS READY AS I'M GOING TO BE.

BREAKFAST IS NOT OPTIONAL.

I KNOW!

SHE'S PROBABLY UP THERE OBSESSING OVER *PLEATS*.

RIVERDALE HIGH.

I MEAN, SHE'S ***GOT*** STYLE. DOESN'T LOOK L.A. DEFINITELY EAST COAST. MAYBE A LITTLE LONDON?

JUST LIKE EVERYWHERE ELSE, SMALL TOWN FOLK LIKE A LITTLE MYSTERY, TOO.

ARE JUMPSUITS EVEN STILL A THING?

A GOOD JUMPSUIT IS ***NEVER*** OUT OF STYLE.

HOW CAN THERE BE SOMEONE IN RIVERDALE WE DON'T KNOW?

1,442 Post

I MEAN IT ***IS*** POSSIBLE NOT TO KNOW ***EVERYONE*** IN RIVERDALE.

Oh, I KNOW.

BRRRRRING!

WE SHOULD FIND HER! ~B

NOT A TERRIBLE IDEA.

NOT EVERY SCHOOL PAPER INVESTIGATION HAS TO BE OF A MASSIVE TOWN CONSPIRACY.

HOW IS THIS RIVERDALE'S ONLY FABRIC STORE?

HOW MANY DO YOU NEED?

NOT BAD.

HEY!

IS THAT HER?

RAGS RAGS

Fabric Store

LEGIT MYSTERY GIRL!

ZZT

Archie
online

Find mystery girl? Burger aftr show 2nite?

THEY WERE WAITING FOR YOU AT THE FABRIC STORE?

YUP.

MAYBE WE SHOULD CANCEL.

WHAT? ***NO!*** THIS IS ALL THE MORE REASON TO DO THIS! THEY'RE GOING TO FIND YOU! WHY NOT MAKE AN APPEARANCE?

I DID HAVE THIS IDEA FOR AN ARNETTA-INSPIRED LEATHER JACKET.

YOU KNOW, LIKE THOSE PICTURES I SHOWED YOU OF THE STUFF SHE DID BACK IN LONDON IN THE '80s?

SURE! WHATEVER. MAKE SOME-THING COOL.

LET'S SHOW RIVERDALE WHAT WE'RE MADE OF.

THE FOX AND THE BARREL

HEY! NERVOUS?

SORT OF.

GOOD CROWD. WHO ELSE IS PERFORMING?

JOSIE'S GOING TO TRY OUT A NEW SONG. AND...

I DON'T KNOW WHO ELSE-- A FEW LOCALS, I GUESS?

Josie McCoy

Frankie Valdez

Brigitte Reilly

Bingo Wilkin

Jinx Holliday

HAVE A GOOD SHOW. BREAK YOUR LEGS.

NICE.

THIS IS A BAD IDEA.

I AM A GENIUS.

I'M GOING HOME.

YOU CAN-NOT JUST SIT AT HOME SEWING AND SINGING BY YOURSELF EVERY NIGHT.

SAYS WHO?

YOU ARE DOING THIS.

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

THANKS, YOU GUYS.

THANKS, ARCHIE.

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

OKAY, SO...

MYSTERY...

NEXT UP!

Katy KEENE & SIS!

Jughead online

...revealed.

IT'S...

...HER.

YAAAAYY! WOO-HOO!

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

HER NAME IS *KATY KEENE?*

SHE CAN *SING*, TOO?

WE HAVE A WINNER!

Jughead online

Looks like the fashionista is going to be Riverdale's next big fish.

FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENS NEXT IN THE

ARCHIE & KATY KEENE

GRAPHIC NOVEL ON SALE FALL 2020

"A fresh and exciting start to what could be a seminal series in the burgeoning Archieverse." - **Multiversity Comics**

Riverdale's own bombshell bloodsucker is back! Following the events of the *Jughead the Hunger vs. Vampironica* crossover, Veronica returns to her own universe, still a vampire. She's not the same, and she knows it. And now she needs answers. But she may not be ready for what she's about to discover!

Collects the full four-issue *Vampironica: New Blood* miniseries written by FRANK TIERI and MICHAEL MORECI with art by AUDREY MOK and JOE EISMA.

As an added bonus: VAMPIRONICA: NEW BLOOD also includes a sneak peek of the all-new ARCHIE AND KATY KEENE series by co-writers MARIKO TAMAKI and KEVIN PANETTA with art by LAURA BRAGA.

RATED TEEN +
VIOLENCE AND MATURE CONTENT

ArchieHorror.com

VAMPIRONICA
NEW BLOOD